

The essential language of Arts and Crafts

Art words you'll need to know!

» En cada niño hay un artista. El problema es saber como permanecer artista al crecer.

Pablo Picasso



Arts and Crafts lessons can be linked to every subject across the curriculum and provide an ideal opportunity to teach and revise content and language. But you need to have the appropriate language to go about it. Here go some practical advice and tips for your CLIL classes.

→ Labelling the classroom

Start by labelling the classroom and creating a visual impact on your students. In this way they will become familiar with the vocabulary they need to know in order to follow the class. Get your students to make and decorate their own labels. Divide the class into groups and assign each student a task.

→ Teacher, that's the wrong label!

Play games with the pre-made labels before sticking them up for good. Label the classroom incorrectly and get the students to put them in the correct place. Alternatively, divide into teams and see how quickly a team can correctly label the classroom.

Remember!

The 'drip drip effect'

Establishing routines and effective classroom management requires months, if not years, of practice. The language used to give instructions, establish routines, teach materials and manage student behaviour needs to be very repetitive. However, it will eventually 'sink in' through continual exposure to the same expressions. This is called the 'drip drip effect.'

Art Materials Teacher's Quiz

How good is your knowledge of art materials?
Can you answer all the quiz questions below?
If you know how to distinguish the vocabulary
items, congratulations! If you don't, find a dictionary!

Make sure you know how to pronounce the words.
If in doubt consult www.dictionary.com which has
a pronunciation function (*Am. English.*) You'll find
answers at the bottom of this article.

1. What's the difference between card and cardboard?
2. Are **drawing pins** used for drawing?
3. Which are softer: **wax crayons** or **pastels**?
4. Which pens are for colouring in and which for writing on the board: **felt tips** or **markers**?
5. Where would we hang **baubles** and **tinsel**?
6. Put these types of paper in order of strength:
 - a) scrap
 - b) crepe
 - c) shiny
 - d) tissue
 - e) frieze
 - f) cellophane
 - g) corrugated card
 - h) tracing
7. You can find **sequins**, **lace** and **ribbon** in which type of shop?
8. Which of the following doesn't stick: **white glue**, **PVA**, **glue stick**, **glitter**, **sellotape** or **blu-tack**?
9. Which is the thickest type of paint: **gouache**, **watercolour** or **tempera**?
10. Match the words with their **recyclable containers**:

egg / cereal	toilet / kitchen
water / plastic	margarine
juice / milk	jam / mayonnaise

jar	box
carton	roll holder
bottle	tub
11. Which of the following can you not model with:
 - a) clay
 - b) flour
 - c) play dough
 - d) plasticine?
12. Name the odd one out: **mould**, **knead**, **model**, **rip**.



'Warmers' for learning art materials

The materials used in art and craft provide ample opportunity for games. The following activities make ideal 'warmers' for the art class.

→ I Spy

Practise new vocabulary by playing a simple version of 'I spy'. Say "I spy a 'B'" instead of "I spy with my little eye something beginning with ... 'B'." Students call out 'B' words.

→ Cover and count

Place the day's materials on a central table and ask students to cover their eyes and count to ten. Meanwhile, the teacher removes an item from the table. Students open their eyes and try to identify the missing object.

→ What's missing?

This is a variation of *Cover and count*. Students move around the room to music. When the music stops they crouch down on the floor and freeze with their eyes closed. Remove an object or label from the room. Pupils guess what is missing.

→ Simon Says variations

We all use the *Simon Says game* for practising classroom instructions. But did you know these variations?

When the teacher or caller says "Simon Says ..." students:

- do the opposite.
- mime the instruction.
- do the previous instruction.
- read your lips.
- chorus the instruction shouting it out.
- play in pairs: one caller says half the instruction and the other completes it.

→ Mime games

Mime games and TPR (Total Physical Response) activities form a critical part of language teaching. Students need to **see** and often **feel** what is required of them. The following is a list of common art-related collocations.

Art-related collocations

Blow through	<i>the straw</i>
Cut out	<i>the template</i>
Clean up	<i>your table</i>
Cut along	<i>the dotted line</i>
Display	<i>your work</i>
Fold	<i>the page in half</i>
Hand out	<i>the crayons</i>
Hang	<i>your picture on ...</i>
Make prints	<i>with the potato</i>
Paint over	<i>the stencil</i>
Rinse	<i>your paintbrush</i>
Rub out	<i>the board</i>
Roll up	<i>the card</i>
Sharpen	<i>your pencil</i>
Scrunch up	<i>the tissue paper</i>
Stick	<i>the pieces together</i>
Stir	<i>the paint</i>
Trace	<i>the design</i>
Tape	<i>the card together</i>
Twist	<i>the pipe cleaner</i>
Wrap up	<i>the box</i>

Suggested activity

Now, together with your students, think of a mime for each of the above activities.

Words of Encouragement and Caution

Always praise your students. Try to give them more encouragement than criticism. Here are some phrases that may be useful in an Arts and Crafts context.

Words of Encouragement

That's a beautiful drawing!
What a lovely painting/design!
You've got a great imagination!
That's very creative/interesting!
Well done. That's wonderful.
Thank you for listening.
You've all behaved very well.

Words of Caution

Wait your turn.
Don't run with the scissors!
Careful with the paintbrushes!
Wash your hands when you finish.
Stop messing about and listen!
Don't waste water!
Don't forget to clean up.

Art Materials Teacher's Quiz Key (page 90):

1. Card is thinner. Cardboard is the material used for boxes.
2. Drawing pins are tacks for pinning work to a corkboard.
3. Pastels.
4. Felt tips are colouring pens and markers are thicker and used for the board.
5. On the Christmas tree.
6. Tissue paper is definitely the weakest followed by cellophane and scrap paper.
Corrugated card has three or more layers and is the strongest.
The other types of paper fall in the middle.
7. In a haberdashery: they are all accessories for clothes.
8. Glitter is not sticky.
9. Tempera, also called poster paint, is the thickest.
Gouache is the watercolour type paint used in the classroom.
10. Egg box / water bottle / juice carton / toilet roll holder / margarine tub / jam jar
11. Flour.
12. You mould, knead, model clay but rip paper.